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It is surprising that in the daily lists of the causes of death, beriberi is a constant factor. There occurred from January 1 to 15, 11 cases; January 16 to 31, 20 cases; February 1 to 15, 16 cases; February 16 to 28, 10 cases; March 1 to 15, 10 cases; March 16 to 31, 23 cases. At first it was principally men in the navy who fell ill with beriberi, next the soldiers on shore, chiefly those of the police, but now we observe the sickness has in the same manner attacked private persons without exception of sex and social position. My predecessor, Dr. Cleary, had already laid stress upon the fact that beriberi has doubtless become endemic in Rio de Janeiro.

Since last report, the following named ships have been inspected and received bills of health from this office: April 29, steamship *Bellova*, British, for New York; steamship *Cumeria*, British, for New York. May 2, bark *Ramona*, British, for Brunswick; bark *H. McLarren*, British, for Pascagoula; bark *Zefiro*, Italian, for Apalachicola. May 4, steamship *Nitheroy*, American, for the United States. May 5, steamship *Leny*, British, for St. Lucia, West Indies; steamship *Tyr*, Norwegian, for New York.

Respectfully, yours,

W. HAVELBURG, M. D.,

*Acting Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

#### GERMANY.

*Case of smallpox removed from steamship Pisa upon leaving Hamburg for Halifax.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

*Washington, June 3, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor, by direction of the Secretary of State, to inclose for your information a copy of a dispatch from the consul at Hamburg, in regard to smallpox among emigrants for Canada and the mode of inspection adopted by him.

Respectfully, yours,

THOS. W. CRIDLER,

*Third Assistant Secretary.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.]

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

*Hamburg, May 12, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to herewith confirm my cable of to-day, reading:

"State Department, Washington: Pisa with 805 emigrants for Halifax and 183 for New York left here yesterday. One Halifax family stopped; one child infected with smallpox. Others from same lodging on board. All precautions taken. Every passenger vaccinated. Instruct Halifax consul.—PITCAIRN."

Which explains itself.

For further information of the Department, I wish herewith to give a more detailed explanation of the case. The embarkation of the passengers for steamship *Pisa* took place yesterday afternoon. She was to carry about 800 passengers—mostly Galicians—for Halifax, and about 200 for New York. During the examination, after having already examined most of the emigrants, we discovered one girl, of about 4 years of age, belonging to a family of four members from Galicia, destined for Halifax, infected with smallpox, in the first stage of eruption, and immediately the whole family was isolated and removed to the hospital. At the same time the ship's physician was ordered to immediately vaccinate all the passengers on board, including those going to Halifax, and, when arriving in Halifax, to inform the United States consul at that port of the matter.

However, I also thought it advisable that the Department also instruct the Halifax consul directly.

The present case demonstrates the necessity of my inspecting Halifax passengers traveling on a vessel also carrying passengers for a port of the United States. As to the mode of inspection, I again beg to refer to my dispatch, No. 35, of April 13th last; at the same time I wish to inform the Department that I now require the packet company to furnish me with lists showing the names and country of residence of all Halifax passengers, so that I may know whether or not any of these emigrants come from an infected country. These lists I have properly sworn to by the ship's physician and officer, in the usual way, and feel certain that the Department approves of my doing so.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

HUGH PITCAIRN, *Consul.*

Hon. WILLIAM R. DAY,  
*Assistant Secretary of State.*

NOTE.—The above telegram was repeated to the health officer at New York on May 14, 1898.

*Arrival at Halifax, of steamship Pisa, from Hamburg, with 3 cases of small-pox on board.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, D. C., June 1, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor, by direction of the Secretary of State, to inclose for your consideration a copy of a dispatch from the consul general at Halifax, reporting the arrival there of the emigrant steamer *Pisa* with 3 cases of smallpox on board. After the removal of the patients and a thorough disinfection, the vessel left for New York on the 26th ultimo.

Respectfully, yours,

THOS. W. CRIDLER,  
*Third Assistant Secretary.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.]

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 27, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the steamer *Pisa*, mentioned in Department of State dispatch, numbered 20, arrived in this port last Sunday night, the 22d instant. Three cases of smallpox developed during her voyage from Hamburg. The ship was detained in quarantine and all the Halifax passengers were landed there and are now in hospital. The entire ship was disinfected and also the clothing of all the emigrants, under the direction of the health officer of this port.

I am informed that the smallpox cases while on board the steamship were carefully isolated. The *Pisa* left here last night, the 26th instant, with 183 emigrants on board bound for New York.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN G. FOSTER,  
*Consul-General.*

Hon. J. B. MOORE, *Assistant Secretary of State.*

INDIA.

*Plague in Calcutta.*

CALCUTTA, *May 4, 1898.*

SIR: In continuation of my dispatch, No. 54, dated April 27th last, in which I said that there had been a number of suspicious cases in Calcutta, but that the health officer had not decided whether they were well-defined cases of bubonic plague, or not, I now have the honor to inclose herewith a report of the proceedings of the legislative council of Bengal, with the remarks of the lieutenant governor published in the *Englishman* of the 2d instant, announcing that plague exists in Calcutta,